SUPPLEMENT TO
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MEMORANDUM
OF
THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Of late the Japanese government is flagrantly infringing upon the democratic, national rights of Korean nationals in Japan and intensifying its manoeuvrings to suppress their democratic, national education.

Under the manipulation of U.S. imperialism, the Japanese authorities have all along repressed the national education of Koreans in Japan up to now since the end of the Second World War.

Under the instructions and aegis of the Japanese government, the Japanese police and forces of reaction have been perpetrating grave criminal acts in all parts of Japan on countless occasions—raiding and setting fire to the Korean educational organs, destroying and burning down Korean school facilities and man-handling, wounding and killing Korean students and school children.

The actions of the Japanese authorities to undermine and suppress the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan have become more rampant following the conclusion of the "South Korea-Japan Treaty."

Slandering and vilifying the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan as "anti-Japanese education," the Japanese government has recently been scheming to institute the "alien school system" to suppress it in general.

The Japanese authorities' suppression of the national education of Koreans in Japan is not only designed to destroy the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan and deprive Korean nationals there of their democratic, national rights; it is also part of the political plot to step up fascistization in Japan and the reaggression of South Korea by the Japanese militarist forces.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has resolutely opposed the Japanese government's suppression of the national education of Korean nationals in Japan and strongly demanded more than once that the Japanese government guarantee democratic, national rights to them.

Nevertheless, the Japanese government is now attempting to suppress and obliterate the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan by instituting the "alien school system." This is a plain infringement upon the fundamental rights of Korean nationals in Japan in violation of the principles of international law, and another open challenge to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sternly condemns the Japanese government authorities for their unjust actions and issues this memorandum, deeming it necessary to expose to the world's people the true facts about their criminal acts historically committed to deny Korean nationals in Japan their democratic, national education.

(1)

After the surrender of Japanese imperialism in 1945, Korean nationals in Japan set about their work of promoting democratic, national education relying on their own efforts.

They were in a difficult condition in the early period of their liberation from Japanese imperialist rule as there were no teachers, nor textbooks, nor school buildings, but out of the earnest desire to ensure their children against ignorance and illiteracy from which they had suffered, they built schools and prepared textbooks and started education in their mother tongue, those with knowledge contributing their knowledge, those with money their money and those with physical strength their physical strength.

It was in this way that Korean nationals in Japan established more than 500 Korean schools by 1948.

The work of the democratic, national education for Korean nationals in Japan received active support from all strata of people as well as democratic political parties and public organizations in Japan.

The formation of the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan in 1955 contributed to increasing the enthusiasm of Koreans for the education of their sons and daughters.

It is quite reasonable for Korean nationals in Japan, the victims of the harsh aggressive policy of Japanese imperialism, to conduct a democratic, national education in order to teach their children how to write and speak their national language and acquaint them with the long history and brilliant cultural traditions of the sagacious Korean people. This is the legitimate national right of Korean nationals in Japan, which no one is entitled to violate.

And yet, the Japanese government authorities under the direct manipulation of the U.S. imperialists have persistently tried to stamp out the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan ever since the first days of its introduction.

In October 1947 the civil information and education division of the headquarters of the U.S. occupation forces in Japan instructed the Japanese government to "see that Korean schools obey all instructions of the Japanese Ministry of Education, except that they are permitted to teach the Korean language as an additional subject to their regular curriculum."

Under these instructions the Japanese government issued on January 24, 1948, "instructions" of the "Ministry of Education" to all parts of the country, under the pretext of preventing "communist education" in Korean schools, to the effect that the establishment of schools exclusively for Koreans would not be approved and that even those schools already recognized had to conduct education in the Japanese language and with Japanese textbooks.

In accordance with these "instructions," the Japanese authorities issued in March 1948 an "order on closing down" Korean schools in several municipalities and prefectures including Hyogo, Osaka and Tokyo where Koreans are concentrated, and barbarously suppressed the Korean nationals in Japan who were against it.

In Osaka, 5,000 Japanese police were put into action and fired at the barehanded masses of Koreans gathered in the City Hall Square, thereby injuring many of them.

In Kobe, a "state of emergency" was proclaimed on April 24, 1948, and some 2,000 Koreans who defended democratic, national education were arrested and detained under the personal command of 8th U.S. Army Commander Eichelberger.

On September 8, 1949, prior to the launching of an aggressive war in Korea by the U.S. imperialists, the Japanese government forcibly dissolved Korean organizations in Japan under the absurd pretexts of "terrorist organizations" or "violation of the occupation policy."

Then, on October 19 of the same year, an order was issued to "close down" several hundred Korean schools which had been run independently, and they were closed down and confiscated immediately.

The Japanese government continued to perpetrate massive suppression of the Koreans in Japan who had demanded the withdrawal of the "order on closing down" the schools.

On February 27, 1951, on the framed-up charge of "printing anti-American handbills in the school," the Japanese authorities mobilized 500 fully armed police reserves and 60 detectives to raid the Tokyo Metropolitan Korean School suddenly, commit outrages and confiscate large quantities of teaching materials, and on March 7, 5,000 armed police encircled the school and beat up the teaching staff and students before driving them out into the street. Two to three hundred teachers and students were wounded lightly or severely with many arrested that day.

On August 3, 1952, more than 300 armed Japanese police raided the 12th Tokyo Metropolitan Korean Primary School on the unfounded charge of "breaking into buildings and violating the explosives control regulations."

The repressive and destructive measures taken by the Japanese government drastically reduced the number of the Korean students and school children from over 50,000 as of April 1948 to 17,000 in 1952.

As we can see, the suppressive actions taken by the Japanese authorities before and after the outbreak of the Korean war were part of their active co-operation with U.S. imperialism in the execution of its war of aggression in Korea.

The Japanese authorities' persecution and repression of the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan continued after the Korean war, and became more and more malignant as they conducted the "South Korea-Japan talks" with the South Korean puppet clique.

With the progress of the "South Korea-Japan talks," one incident after another took place of Korean educational facilities being set afire, destroyed or broken into and of Korean students being murdered or subjected to violence.

The following are part of the typical examples of such cases:

On February 2, 1962, under the pretext of "violation of the foreigners registration law," the Japanese authorities mobilized more than 150 armed police to raid the Ibaragi Korean Middle and High School and its dormitory. They searched the teachers' rooms and the dormitory and confiscated many documents of the school. A month later, they set fire to the school buildings, causing a great damage.

On March 7, 1963, the Tokyo Korean Middle and High School was also set afire with one of its buildings (with an area of more than 260 square metres) burnt down completely, and on October 3, 1966 the girl students' dormitory of the same school was set afire and completely burnt down.

The Japanese reactionaries continued to commit raids and violences against this school after that as well. In the rest of 1966 alone there occurred successive acts of violence—on October 16, 21 and 23, and November 1 and 2, for instance.

There are successive cases of policemen directly assaulting, killing or wounding the teachers, staff-members and students of Korean schools and infringing upon their human rights.

On September 20, 1963, two Japanese policemen committed barbarous violence on Ri Bak Sik (16), a first-year student of the high school course of the Kanagawa Korean Middle and High School, and four other students, taking them to the Danmachi police-box and beating and kicking them for no reason at all.

On May 13, 1963, the police authorities of Ibaragi Prefecture abruptly demanded that Ri Jong Gang, a teacher of the Ryugasaki Korean School, while teaching, produce his "foreigners registration certificate." As he said that he had left the "certificate" at home, they arrested him on the spot and submitted him to trial.

On August 2, 1964, Iwao, policeman in Hyogo Prefecture, cruelly beat with his club a Korean boy named Jong Gyong Sun (14) on the head in the street in broad daylight because he was "a Korean" and handcuffed the fainted victim.

On February 6, 1965, three policemen—Akida, Hasegawa and Eto—of Kobe City took to a police-box Go Yong Il and Gang Ha Hun, students of Kobe Korean Middle and High School, who were walking down the street, and committed gross outrages on them—stripping them of their clothes, beating and kicking them and burning their bodies with a lighted cigarette on the charge that they were not carrying "foreigners registration certificates" with them. When they were strongly protested by the students against the violation of their human rights, the policemen insulted them, saying "You, Koreans, are not allowed to have your say here in Japan."

On April 8, 1965, Takada, a policeman of the Simonoseki police station, tried unwarrantly to interrogate Kim Bong Ryun, teacher of the Simonoseki Korean Primary and Middle School who was on his way home. He seized him by the shoulder and asked him to untie his cloth wrapper, and when refused, he called him "an arrogant Korean" and kicked and trampled him down on the head and waist, thereby inflicting upon the victim a severe injury which required one month's treatment.

On September 13, 1965, two policemen of the Atsuda police station in Aichi Prefecture took to a policebox for no reason Kim Hui Bong (15), a third-year student of the middle school course of the Aichi Korean Middle and High-School who was waiting for a tram on his way to school. He was locked up and threatened and intimidated to inform them of the internal affairs of his school such as the contents of tuition, the number of students and teachers, etc.

Early in June 1966, Chiyonobu of the Public Security Investigation Bureau forced Korean national Song Sin Do, one of the directors of an association for the Ube Korean Primary and Middle School, to act as spy by telling them the "number of the teachers and students of the school and the pay scale of the teachers" and the "composition of the board of directors of the education association" and showing them "all the official documents of the education association hereafter."

Besides, Japanese youths and students, under the instructions and aegis of the Japanese government authorities and police, are engrossed in outrages of all descriptions—beating, wounding and murdering Korean students in Japan.

Such terroristic acts took place on scores of occasions in 1966 alone.

On February 23, 1966, more than 30 Japanese students assaulted and seriously injured Bak Y'ong Sin, Jon Hyo Il, Song Y'ong Bok and Rim S'ong Il, students of the high school course of the Tokyo Korean Middle and High School, shouting: "Do away with them! Anybody will do if he is a Korean high school student."

On March 15, 1966, a gang of Japanese youths attacked Ri Dok Ho, third-

year student of the middle school course of the Kanagawa Korean Middle and High School, and stabbed him on the shoulder with daggers, injuring him severely before running away.

On April 14, 1966, more than 30 Japanese students besieged Gwon Myong Su, second-year student of the high school course of the Tokyo Korean Middle and High School, and Kim Yon Gwang and two other second-year students of the high school course of the Kanagawa Korean Middle and High School, near the Yoyogi railway station and picked a quarrel with them questioning at first whether they were Koreans. They were dragged into a nearby park and beaten on the head with stones and clubs until they became unconscious.

On May 21, 1966, there were four cases of groups of Japanese youths perpetrating violence on Korean students in Tokyo.

On that day, Gwon O Jin, second-year student of the high school course of the Tokyo Korean Middle and High School, and five other students were assaulted by a group of more than 20 Japanese students on their way home, while at about the same hour Kim In Sop and Kim Gyu Hwa, first-year students of the high school course of the Tokyo Korean Middle and High School were assaulted by over 30 Japanese students of the Kokushikan High School in the train.

Later, at the Hirai station these Japanese students waited for Korean students on their way home and assaulted them, wounding Sin Gi Sok before fleeing.

When the assaulted Korean students got off the train at the Shinkoiwa station to avoid another possible attack, Japanese students who had been waiting for them there committed outrages on Gwon Dong Hyon after asking him if he was a Korean high school student.

These acts, arsons and outrages of killing and injuring mentioned above are only part of the suppression and persecution committed by the Japanese authorities against the national education of Koreans in Japan.

The Japanese authorities have so far committed countless criminal acts against Korean nationals in Japan, but they have been inhuman enough to conduct interrogations of Korean students, the victims, without hesitation.

All these facts vividly show how villainous and cruel is the Japanese authorities' suppression of the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan. They have long unfolded a bloody struggle against the criminal scheme of the Japanese government to suppress their democratic, national education.

In 1948, when the Japanese government perpetrated a wholesale suppression of Korean schools in Japan on the instructions of the headquarters of the U.S. occupation forces in Japan, the whole Korean nationals in Japan fought stubbornly at the cost of their lives to defend the schools established with their sweat and blood.

And when the Japanese government keeping pace with the U.S. imperialists' launching of war of aggression against Korea, was intensifying fascist terror against Korean nationals in Japan and schemed to close down the Korean schools, they fought against it to the last.

Then, to counter the continued suppressive moves of the Japanese government, the Korean nationals in Japan formed the "committee for measures for the national education of Koreans in Japan" and unfolded extensive demonstrations, protests and signature-collecting campaign in defence of their national rights.

No suppression, nor bayonet nor poison could break the fervent will of the Korean nationals in Japan to defend their right to democratic, national education.

Thus, despite hard and difficult conditions, they struggled unflinchingly and set up for themselves primary, middle and high schools as well as the highest educational institution, the Korean University.

At present, Korean nationals in Japan have the Korean University equipped with up-to-date facilities and more than 140 regular schools at all levels and several hundreds of irregular schools, where over 40,000 sons and daughters of our compatriots are studying.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, regarding it as its lofty national duty to defend the democratic, national rights and promote the national education for Koreans in Japan, has paid deep attention and rendered great assistance to their education.

From 1957 up to now, the Government of the Republic has sent educational subsidies and stipends totalling more than 5,620,785,000 yen (in Japanese currency) on 23 occasions to ensure a democratic, national education for the children of Koreans in Japan.

Immensely inspired by this, Korean nationals in Japan, as citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, are carrying on a democratic, national education to suit their actual conditions in conformity with the educational policy of the Republic.

As a result, the mother tongue, the history, geography and culture of the homeland and theories of advanced science are taught at Korean schools in Japan.

The students and children are educated to take national pride in their citizenship of the Republic, love their country and people and to strengthen friendship with the peoples of Japan and other countries of the world.

The Japanese language is also taught as a regular subject there in the light of the fact that they live in Japan.

The democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan which is carried on under a well-organized system from primary up to higher education is permeated with the lofty compatriotism of the people in the homeland and the very sweat and blood of Korean nationals in Japan.

(2)

Since it has failed to undermine the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan by every conceivable means of suppression, the Japanese government is even hatching an undisguised criminal plot to obliterate it completely by law.

At present the Japanese government tries to pass a bill on the "alien school system" to replace national education with "assimilation education" for the sons and daughters of our Korean nationals in Japan.

The so-called "bill on the alien school system" being contrived by the ruling Japanese government provides that education in foreign schools shall not "impair the interests and security" of Japan and that the Japanese minister of education shall have the right to approval on the opening of foreign schools, and shall be even entitled to control and interfere in their management, the appointment and dismissal of the teachers and the contents of education, change or discontinue instruction and close down the schools.

As is seen here, the projected "alien school system" clearly reveals the criminal attempt of the Japanese authorities to control, suppress and eliminate Korean schools and impose "assimilation education" upon Korean youth and children in Japan under the absurd pretext of "impairing the interests and security" of Japan.

It is clear that the "alien school system" is designed mainly to repress the national education of Korean nationals in Japan since most of foreign schools in Japan are Korean schools and the Japanese authorities label the democratic, national education conducted in these schools as "anti-Japanese education."

The Japanese authorities allege that it is also "anti-Japanese education" to teach our younger generation the political and social system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Korean history in Korean schools in Japan.

It is quite natural to teach their mother tongue, give them knowledge of their country and educate them in the consciousness and pride as citizens of the Republic.

How can this be "anti-Japanese education?"

The Japanese authorities allege that it is also an "education detrimental to the interests of Japan" to expose to Korean students in Japan U.S. imperialist aggression against Korea and the traitorous acts of the Pak Jung Hi clique. This is all the more preposterous.

The U.S. imperialists are the sworn enemy of the Korean people, for it is they who occupy one half of Korean territory and bring immeasurable misfortunes and sufferings to the South Korean people, and obstruct the reunification of Korea.

The Pak Jung Hi clique are the most faithful puppets of U.S. imperialism, the foul traitors to the nation and the country discarded by the Korean people.

Struggle against U.S. imperialism and the Pak Jung Hi clique is a matter of the national sovereignty of the Korean people in which no one is allowed to meddle.

All the facts show beyond doubt that the "alien school system" being devised by the Japanese government authorities is entirely unjustified.

There is no ground whatsoever for pressing down and prohibiting the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan.

It is natural for overseas citizens of an independent state to carry out national education in their mother tongue in the place of their residence, and this is an international practice.

Especially Korean nationals in Japan need national education in their mother tongue all the more keenly in view of their past status.

Most of the 600,000 Korean compatriots now in Japan are those who were forcibly taken to Japan by the Japanese imperialists for "military and labour service" or were compelled to leave their dear homes and drift to Japan after they had been deprived of their country due to the brutal Japanese colonial rule, and their sons and daughters.

Severely exploited and oppressed by the Japanese imperialists, they suffered appalling poverty and hard toil beyond imagination with so many of them perishing, and are subject to intolerable national insult and contempt and inhuman treatment and persecution.

They were deprived of the free-dom of speaking in their own mother tongue, let alone learning it. If they expressed the willingness to learn the history, geography and time-honoured cultural traditions of their country, it was regarded as a "crime" and they were severely suppressed.

In the light of Japan's crimes committed against the Korean people in the past and of the principles of international law and international peace, the Japanese government is under inescapable legal and moral obligation to respect basic human rights of Korean nationals in Japan and ensure democratic, national rights including that of national education for them.

Under no pretext can the Japanese government deny the legitimacy of the democratic, national education of the Koreans in Japan; it is only duty bound to ensure it.

Korean nationals in Japan will never remain indifferent to the infringement of their national rights which they have defended shedding blood.

Korean nationals in Japan who safeguard and uphold the honour of their country and people and set great store by the future of their children will, as in the past, continue to do all they can to defend the democratic, national education to the end.

(3)

The righteous struggle of Korean nationals in Japan to defend their right to democratic, national education enjoys active support of the Japanese people and world opinion.

Political parties and public organizations and broad strata of people in Japan are actively supporting and encouraging the struggle of Koreans in Japan to safeguard their democratic, national education and are defending their democratic rights.

More than 4,000 central and local political parties, democratic organizations including the Japanese Communist Party, Socialist Party, General Council of Trade Unions, Japan-Korea Association, Council for the Defence of Human Rights of Koreans in Japan and Council for Defending the Democratic, National Education of Koreans in Japan as well as progressive figures and broad strata of people of Japan are consistently unfolding various forms of struggle such as holding massive rallies, issuing statements and expressing personal views in demand of the immediate discontinuation of the Japanese government's suppression of the national education of Koreans in Japan.

The Communist Party of Japan exposes and condemns the unwarranted schemes of the Japanese government to suppress and stamp out the national education of Koreans in Japan and actively supports their just struggle for defending their democratic, national rights.

The Diet group of the Communist Party of Japan has disclosed the reactionary nature of the bill on the "alien school system" and resolutely opposed its submission to the Diet and at the same time strongly demanded that the government withdraw it at once.

The Japanese Socialist Party has expressed its official stand of positively defending the right of Korean nationals in Japan to democratic, national education in a number of statements against the bill on the "alien school system."

On March 16, 1967, the Socialist Party protested to the government against the submission to the Diet of the bill on the "partial amendment to the school education law" aimed at suppressing the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan, and on May 9, the Socialist Diet members held a plenary meeting and decided to further strengthen the struggle against the bill on the "alien school system."

Meanwhile, the General Council of Trade Unions resolved to see that four million workers affiliated with it all fight in defence of the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan against the introduction of the "alien school system."

On May 12, the Chairman of the General Council of Trade Unions demanded that the Diet withdraw at once the bill on the "alien school system" designed to suppress the national education of Koreans in Japan.

Besides, many political parties and public organizations are waging powerful struggle to safeguard the right of Koreans in Japan to democratic, national education.

The Tokyo Metropolitan General Assembly and more than 230 local assemblies in Japan adopted resolutions supporting the democratic, national education of Korean nationals in Japan.

The Japanese people support the national education of Korean nationals in Japan by organizing the "consultative conferences on the education of Koreans in Japan", in Tokyo and many other places.

More than 11,000 Japanese scholars and men in the cultural field including outstanding university presidents, rectors and members of the Science Council have issued statements and unfolded extensive signature-seeking campaigns in defence of the democratic, national education of Koreans in Japan.

Through their statements and messages of protest international democratic organizations and progressive foreign personalities, too, are exposing and condemning the unjust actions of the Japanese government to suppress the democratic, national rights of Koreans in Japan and sending full support to them in their righteous struggle to defend their right to democratic, national education.

These movements carried on by the Japanese people and peoples in all lands contribute greatly to the defence by Korean nationals in Japan of their democratic, national rights.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, regarding it as its lofty national duty to defend the democratic, national rights and national education of Korean nationals in Japan, has strongly demanded, through a number of statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that the Japanese authorities immediately desist from their scheme to institute the "alien school system" and unconditionally ensure for Korean nationals in Japan the right to democratic, national education in conformity with international law and international practice.

The entire Korean people are now raising their strong voice condemning the Japanese government for its suppression of Korean nationals in Japan.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people extend positive support to the just struggle of the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan and Korean nationals there and will, as in the past, continue to make every possible effort to safeguard the democratic, national rights of Koreans in Japan including that of democratic, national education.

All sorts of persecution, interference and suppression perpetrated by the Japanese authorities against the democratic, national education of Koreans in Japan should be stopped and their democratic, national rights be ensured unconditionally.

The Japanese government can never escape this responsibility.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea firmly believes that democratic political parties and public organizations and broad strata of people in Japan as well as the world's people will manifest more active support for and solidarity with Korean nationals in their just struggle against suppression by the Japanese government, in defence of their right to democratic, national education.

Pyongyang, July 12, 1967